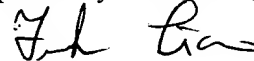


Applicant would like to thank the Examiner, Mr. Q, Tran and his Primary Examiner , Mr. Duc Nguyen for graciously granting applicant's representative, Richard Klar a personal interview on Nov. 28, 2001. During that interview it was agreed that the proposed claim language for claim 11 as presented and the arguments given appeared to define the claimed invention over the cited prior art of record subject to reconsideration and an updated search. Accordingly, a continuation application has been filed concurrently with this preliminary amendment in which independent claims 11 has been amended to substantially incorporate the subject matter of the proposed claim language presented at the aforementioned interview. Claims 1-9 have been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. New dependent claims 12 to 14 have been added. Great care has been taken to avoid the introduction of new matter.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) over Han in view of Heep et al. The Examiner agreed that Han may be overcome if a KSU-less telephone system is recited in independent claim 11, as it appears in amended claim 11. Han clearly does not disclose or suggest a KSU-less system according to principles of the present invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the present application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

An amended copy of claim 11 is provided below:

--11. (Amended) A multiline KSU-less telephone system for providing a paging feature, comprising :

a first telephone for selecting a group of telephones in the KSU-less system ;

a half duplex channel in the system ;

the first telephone initiating a voice message to the group of telephones using the half duplex voice channel in response to a user request; and the group of [telephone] telephones receive and play the voice message from the first telephone automatically regardless of receiving user action and wherein anyone of said group after hearing said voice message can initiate a two -way conversation with the user of said first telephone.--